

# Penwortham Priory Post



## From Primary to Priory at Open Evening

Our doors opened last Thursday evening to over 400 families as they began their search for a secondary school for their children.

Head and Deputy Head, Mr Eastham and Mrs Cowell were the first to greet families at the door before pupils from all year groups could share their experiences of Priory across the different subject areas. Prefects welcomed our visitors and were eager to show Priory off to prospective families as they stood by ready to guide them around their school. Year 7 pupils chatted with former school friends who were keen to hear all about their first month at Priory - showing such confidence that many parents were fathomed they had only been with us three weeks!

Interactive activities were set up across the school for children to enjoy whilst parents questioned teachers and pupils. Showcase explosions in Science, puzzles in Maths, bon appetit in Languages, trampolining in PE and so much more. The ICT & Computer Science department took the opportunity to show off Priory's newest facility, the Hex, where children had a go at programming cars and 'guess the computer parts'.

Humanities was a hub of activity from Mr Watters' voyage around the world and his display of fossils matched by Miss Makinson's history timeline and badge-making experience. Art was an immediate attraction full of bright colours, pupil artwork and 'have a go' colouring.

*Continued on page 8.*



## Key Dates

### Diary Dates

Did you know that the term dates for this academic year, as well as the following two years, are available to view and download from our website?

[www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/termdates](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/termdates)

### Tues, 5 October

Covid immunisations for pupils that have consent.

### Weds, 13 October

Year 7 Settle Factor Evening

### Tues, 19 October

Year 10 Settle Factor Evening

### Mid Term Closure

Mon 25 October - Fri, 29 October

### Mon, 8 November

Learning for Life Day 2  
Early lunch followed by school closure at 1.10pm

### W/c 8 & 15 November

Year 11 Mock Exams

### Thurs, 11 November

Flu immunisations (all year groups)

### Fri, 17 December

Early lunch followed by school closure at 1.10pm

## Meet the Governors...

### Dr Phil Range - Chair

**Dr Phil Range has stepped up into the Chair of Governors role at Priory, replacing the long-standing Kevin Burke.**

Phil was previously Vice Chair and he knows Priory well, living in Penwortham, and his son was a pupil at the school.

“My son was a pupil when Headteacher Mr Eastham was just starting out as a PE teacher!” said Dr Range, who is now retired having worked as the Director of Libraries and IT at Manchester Metropolitan University.

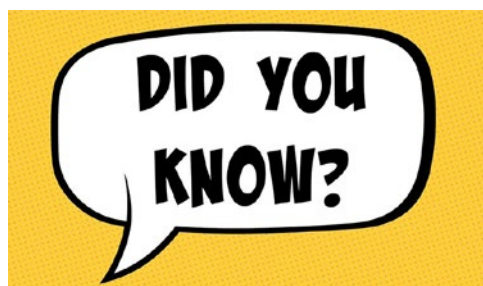
“It has changed such a lot since then and I enjoy coming into school, meeting the staff and pupils, looking at the lovely gardens and the whole environment.

“I have been a governor here for four years and am excited about my new role, it will be a challenge.

“It’s a great time to come in, just after the school was given the ‘Good’ Ofsted grading, and we will look at how we can move forward from there and make the school an even better place.”



## School Governors



**Did you know that during wet or bad weather, pupils can stay inside and go to their Learning for Life room at break and lunch?**

**Pupils can also join the various clubs on offer and, don't forget that the library is open too!**

**Did you know term dates for the new academic year, as well the following two years, are available to view and download from our website?**



<https://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/termdates> (scroll down to the bottom to view future academic years)

The school calendar is also kept up to date with term closures, Learning for Life days and events >>

<https://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/calendar>

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SCHOLASTIC

# COME TO THE BOOK FAIR

AND EARN FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL\*



## The Book Fair is Back at Priory!

It's with us in the library until Tues, 5 October so make sure you join us for this celebration of reading!

Over the years our annual Book Fair has proven a huge hit with the students of Priory. From pens and posters to a variety of books from different genres, there really is something for everyone. The fair will be with us, in the library, until next Tuesday so please ensure you purchase what you want before the fair leaves!

The easiest way to buy books is with cash although parents can also go to the Scholastic website to pay online for books from your child's 'wish list' at <https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay/1184925> and they can then collect their order from the library the next day quoting your payment reference.

**Wish Lists:** While students are browsing the book fair, they can use the wish list (pick a copy up at the library) to write down the books that catch their eye! These are especially handy if parents want to pay online and avoid sending cash.



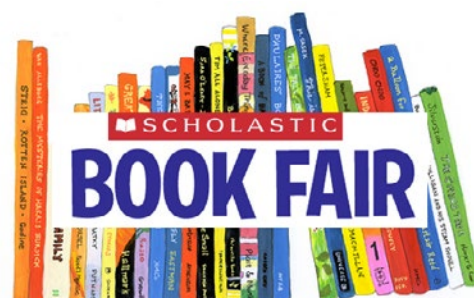
The more the students spend, the more books we can earn for our school library so it really is a win, win!

Mrs Elliott

We look forward to seeing you there!

English Teacher & Chief Librarian

**Books benefit everyone** and to ensure that as many students as possible have access to the best books, Scholastic donate over £6.4 million worth of free books annually to schools nationwide to support literacy and reading for pleasure. You can help make a difference by purchasing from the Scholastic Book Fair - every purchase earns our school rewards which we can spend on free books to stock our library and classrooms.



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**On Thursday we took a trip down to the library to see what was going on during breaktime.**

Whilst pupils from all years were browsing the Book Fair which arrived the day prior, English teacher Mrs Elliott was briefing her newly appointed librarians with their duties. We also found some keen chess players with Year 7 Erik keen to offer tutorials to anyone who wants to have a go at beating this young champ!

Thank you to birthday girl Eleanor, Olivia, Poppy, Summer, Hannah, Caleb, James, Wesley, Erik, Skye and Nathaniel (sorry if we've forgotten anyone!) for allowing us to intrude on their free time. Special mention to Lewis and Deputy Head Girl, Emily, who were on cashier duty for the Book Fair sales.



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# Learning Newsletters

Every month, Deputy Head Mrs Cowell, puts together a newsletter for parents where we seek to share some of the initiatives and strategies we use in school so you might best support your child in their education.

This next issue, September 2021, looks at the 'Curriculum' - what is it and how do we implement it at Priory.

September's issue has been emailed to parents this week however all past issues can be downloaded from the school website at >> [www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/newsletters](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/newsletters) (below our weekly newsletter - please scroll down)

Mrs Cowell, Deputy Headteacher



## B:M2021

DIG DEEPER, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

October is Black History Month, a month to share, celebrate and understand black heritage and culture, as well as celebrating the historical significance and achievements of black British people. Check out Mr Eccles' competition below - you could earn yourself some goodies!

## Celebrating the lives of Black Britons.

**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**

## Black History Month October 2021

COMPETITION  
-TIME-

Across the UK during the month of October, people will be celebrating the contributions made by Black Britons over the years.

Here at Priory, we are running a competition for all students to enter where we would like you to select and celebrate the life of a great Black Briton.

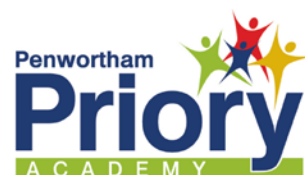
Your entry can be in the form of a poster, a piece of art, a poem, a song or however you wish to celebrate this person and their important life.

**Entries should be submitted to Mr Eccles, Head of History, no later than Wednesday, 20 October 2021.**

A winner will be selected from both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 with vouchers and achievement points for your House up for grabs.

Good luck!

Mr Eccles  
Head of History



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## GCSE Geography

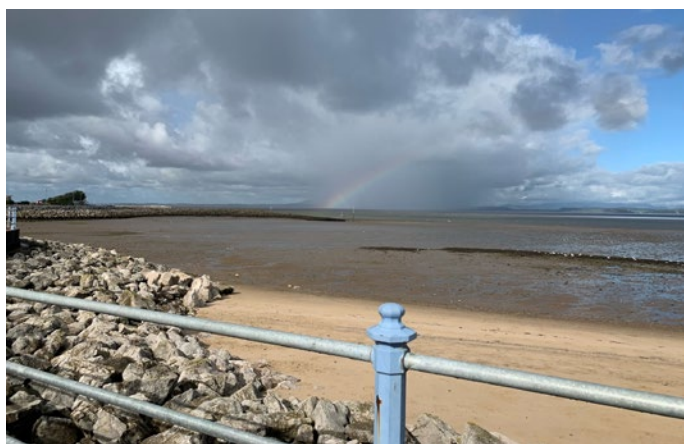
Morecambe &  
Heysham  
Field Trip

Monday &  
Wednesday

### 'AA' trip to remember!

This week has seen around 80 Year 11 students consolidating their classroom learning with their compulsory Geography field trip to Heysham and Morecambe.

The purpose of the visit was to assess coastal management strategies that have been implemented in Morecambe and make decisions about future planning. Mr Eastham, Mr Gee and Mr Bullock all joined us on the trip to support the learning taking place.



Mr Watters led two action packed days which saw students sketching, measuring and photographing landforms of coastal erosion and deposition.

The trips involved some time in Heysham where students were given an opportunity to see what had been taught in the classroom come to life.

After a stroll through the quaint village of Heysham - dating back to Viking times – students walked past an 8th century chapel – St Patrick's – and iconic rock hewn graves on the dramatic headlands overlooking the Bay. Managed by the National Trust, this is a truly wonderful urban green space for our students to



uncover and I personally would encourage anyone to spend an afternoon there!

Once up onto the headland, students saw fantastic views across Morecambe Bay out towards The Lake District. Here students got the chance to sketch and photograph various erosional landforms as well as being nourished with more information from Mr Watters about the UK energy demand and the Heysham Nuclear reactors – which will support their final topic of their GCSE course.

A quick drive into Morecambe saw students on the promenade making connections between classroom theory and outdoor evidence. With the aroma of fish and chips wafting under our noses as we approached lunch, students were now able to see first-hand both the positive and negative impacts of coastal management in Morecambe.

Hard engineering was evident in the form of a curved sea wall, supported by gabions, groynes and rip-rap rock armour all working in combination to protect Morecambe.

Further down the bay students got the opportunity to measure the rip-rap boulders and improve their paper



3 fieldwork techniques by using apps on mobile phones to show increased accuracy of measurement to improve the validity.

Image: Wave cut platform



Students will no doubt remember their eventful trip – not least for the emergency callout of the AA when one of the minibuses decided to have an engine failure and had to be fixed at the roadside. The AA were brilliant, prioritising us as a school group and managing to repair the bus at the roadside – although it took a few hours! A massive thank you to Mr Eccles who kindly drove up to Heysham to swap the bus with another of the Priory buses whilst the repair took place.



The days were truly successful and the students of year 11 were a real credit to our school – showing respect and courtesy to members of the public at all times.

Mr Eastham said *“Despite a cold and blustery wind blowing in from the sea, the trip was a complete success and the pupils who attended were a credit to themselves, the school and their families. Under the expert tuition of Mr Watters, both pupils, myself and Mr Gee learnt a wealth of information about coastal erosion and sea defences. Trips and visits like this are so important to help give the curriculum and its content real life meaning to our pupils and it was great to experience this first hand.”*



I would personally like to thank Mr Watters for all the hard work and dedication that goes into planning such a successful and educational trip. We would also like to thank Mr Eastham, Mr Gee, Mr Bullock and Mr Eccles for their support.

Mr P Metcalfe

Head of Humanities

Image Above: Heysham Head Below: Year 11 with Eric Morecambe



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Continued from front page...

## Oh what a night!

The auditorio was a lightshow of music and drama with the stunning voice of Year 11 Estelle and rock guitar from Dominic. In Technology our young guests took home keyrings which they coloured and then had their name laser engraved on the back - the perfect keepsake of the evening.

The event was a great success but we couldn't do it without the support of our pupils and prefect volunteers. We've received many compliments from prospective

families who named and thanked individuals for their maturity, manners and guidance during their visit.

Mr Eastham, thanked everyone for their efforts on the night, but also for the hard work beforehand that goes into making these events such a success. The evening was a huge step towards our collective aim to make Priory a first choice school.



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This year the English department asked its pupil volunteers if they wanted to have a go at being a roving reporter during the Open Evening. Libby H (Year 7), Shannon T, India P, Troy C and Lucy B (Year 9), Scarlett S (Year 10) and Ellen H and Erin M (Year 11) spoke to some of the Year 6 visitors about what they thought of the event. Here's a snippet from their report...

*Five o'clock rolled around and the school was a buzz already. Over in English, the reporters were making their way around school interviewing families that they met.*

*Logan and mother, Stacey, enjoyed ICT and were excited to go to Art.*

*Abigail thought that PE was fantastic and was thrilled to go and see the Bunsen burners in Science!*

*Gemma adored the auditorium. Ava and Robyn found the English and Drama departments interesting. Tayla was excited for Food Technology.*

*William loved Art and the library facility. He really wants to come to Priory and use the technology facilities – he didn't realise they were so great!*

*A young Year 6, who didn't want to be named, explained that they have really enjoyed getting to know the people and pupils within the school.*

**Well done everyone. We hope to be seeing more of your work in the Priory Post!**



This week we've been focusing on mental health during Learning for Life lessons. Staff have also been sharing strategies they use to support their mental health.

## Mental Health Week



	Be active	Keep learning	Give to others	Take notice	Connect with others
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Wkb 27 September	<p>We will learn and discuss how to stay mentally healthy and why it is important.</p> <p>Education sessions in L4L, information on Teams, emails to parents to help us.</p> <p>A week of making changes, which we will attempt to continue for a healthier future.</p> <p>L4L discussions about what we are doing and sharing ideas.</p> <p>Activities to assist us in having mentally healthier futures.</p>				



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Every term at Priory we have a whole school focus to develop the culture of our school and to make us better people. This term we've been exploring the value of **kindness**.



Here at Penwortham Priory Academy, we know that kindness is important, whether you are an adult or a pupil. We should treat each other with respect and kindness, treat others as we would wish to be treated ourselves and show others how to be kind through example.



## What is kindness?

A kind act | A tendency to be kind and forgiving | The quality of being warm-hearted and considerate and humane and sympathetic.

In simple terms being kind is listening, feeling, and understanding others' needs and trying to help meet those needs.

## Showing Kindness

We might show kindness through...

- Empathy towards each other
- Acceptance of others who are not the same as us
- Kind acts or words
- Thoughtfulness
- Fundraising

All without expecting anything in return

## Kindness in Action

We came up with ideas which we can all have a go at enacting, this term and beyond - maybe a random act of kindness or things we do each year as a whole school. In the next term we will be:

- Collecting items for the homeless as the cold weather comes in.
- Collecting items for the local food bank and families in need, ready for Christmas.
- Collecting for the Royal British Legion in remembrance

**How did you feel when someone was kind to you? How did it feel when you were kind to someone else?**



At Penwortham Priory Academy the Learning for Life curriculum is designed to support the promotion of excellence for pupils and do all it can to improve their life chances.

Pupils have two 15 minute Learning for Life lessons each week where they will participate in the curriculum shown opposite.

**Where you will learn things you will need and will use, now and in the future**

**On the curriculum w/c 4 October**

Year 7	Autumn Term - Theme: 'Starting as we mean to go on' The benefits of being involved
Year 8	Autumn Term - Theme: 'Celebrating our difference' Positive reinforcement: The feel good factor.
Year 9	Autumn Term - Theme: 'Finding my voice' How to deliver feedback sensitively
Year 10	Autumn Term - Theme: 'Owning my journey' Balancing importance and urgency
Year 11	Autumn Term - Theme: 'Breaking down the journey' Organising with clear communication

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# MacMillan's Coffee Morning

## Let them eat cake!

When break-time arrived last Friday pupils quickly picked up their bags to dash over to the Food Technology room - there was cake to be had!

Overseen by Deputy Head & Food Technology teacher, Mrs Cowell, once again the whole school got to enjoy some scrumptious treats whilst raising funds for MacMillan Cancer Support.

To ensure we were operating as safely as possible, donations of shop-bought cake, brownies and biscuits were on offer as pupils and staff swapped their spare cash for the abundant choice of sweet treats.

The World's Biggest Coffee Morning is MacMillan Cancer Support's biggest fundraising event to support people living with cancer. Last year they raised over £10 million and they are hoping for another successful year. One in two of us will face cancer, and the money raised at each Coffee Morning will help everyone with cancer to live life as fully as they can.

After the late night at Open Evening, the school made a donation on behalf of staff which was a welcomed pick-me-up alongside their breaktime coffee!

The total amount raised was £124.80 so we're sure to say everyone got to have their cake and eat it!



## What's On The Menu This Week?

The Catering Team are adding a variety of different foods to both the Eat In and Take Away menus each week so pupils can try a wider variety of options.

Take a look at the menus, particularly to Eat In, where you can choose hot plated meals. Don't forget that if you have ordered from the Eat In menu then friends with Take Away or their own packed lunch can join you in the dining rooms.

# EnglishDepartment



It's **National Poetry Day** on **Thursday, 7 October** and so, not to miss an excuse to celebrate, the English department is getting everyone involved!

Throughout each day next week in class, English teachers will be reading some fantastic poetry written by children, for children, from Wondercrump - a superb anthology of poems sponsored by the Roald Dahl Foundation.

Staff will also be sharing their favourite poetry to pupils via Microsoft Teams and, to parents, through our social media channels.

In addition we're asking everyone - pupils, staff and parents! - to nominate their favourite poem or rhyme. Parents can do this by either commenting on one of our National Poetry Day social media posts next week or by emailing Mrs Gidden at [a.gidden@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.gidden@priory.lancs.sch.uk). Pupils can comment on MS Teams or tell your English teacher. We will then share the most popular the following week. So get your nominations in!

This will make a great warm up for our annual Year 7 poetry competition after Christmas which always produces some really amazing work.

Mrs Gidden  
Head of English



October's screening will run from Monday, 18 to Thurs, 21 October - Labyrinth.

Pupils must collect a ticket from Miss Smith

and have a parent/guardian sign it ready to show on Monday, 18 October at lunch time to gain entry to the film. There are only 30 tickets available so come quickly!

Miss Smith  
English  
Teacher



**OCTOBER SCREENING**  
*18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October Lunchtimes*  
Collect your ticket from Ms Smith in EN1.  
*Limited availability!*

**LABYRINTH (1986):** Teenage Sarah journeys through a maze to recover her baby brother from a goblin king.

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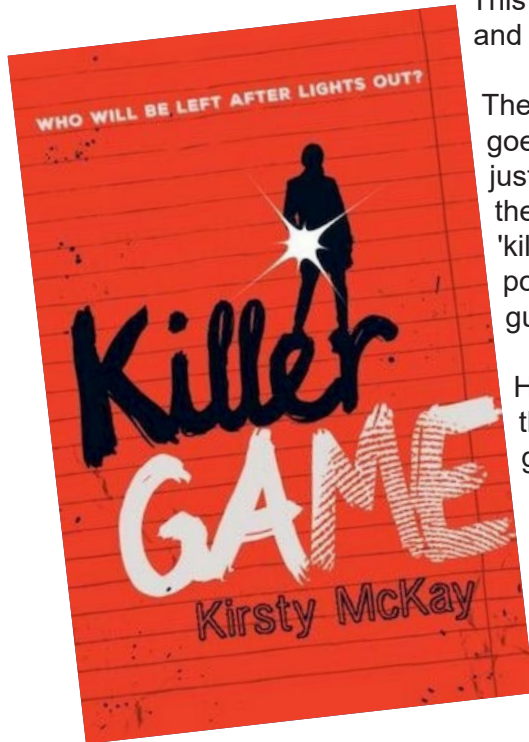




## Mrs Elliott's Recommended Read

Killer Game by Kirsty McKay

This month Humanities and AR teacher, Miss Ackers, has sent in her 'pick'...



This was my first summer holiday read, and I was hooked from the beginning!

The plot was super interesting. Cate goes to a private school on an island just off the coast of Wales. Every year they play a game in which a designated 'killer' must 'kill' as many people as possible before the rest of the players guess who they think is committing the 'murders'. A real Cluedo style game!

However, this year, the kills are happening for real, and Cate is next on the list. The stakes have risen, and she must find the killer, not to win the game, but to survive the night.

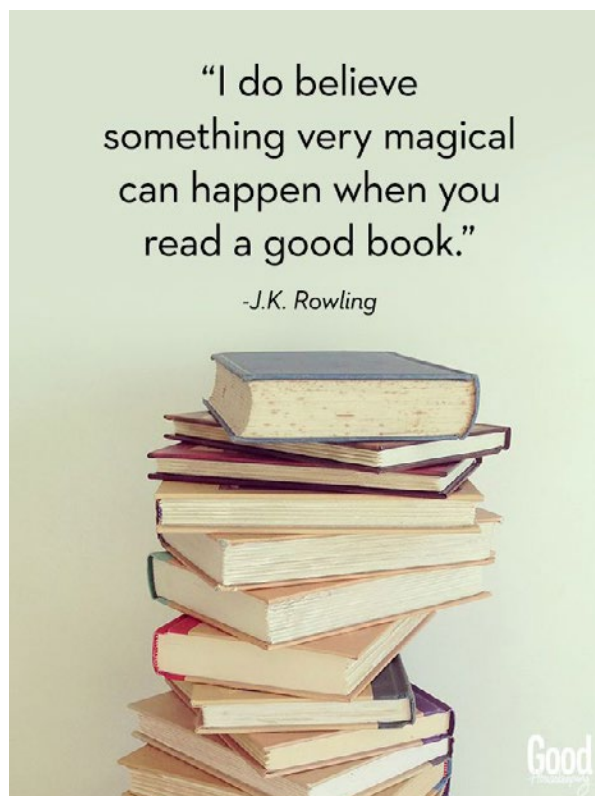
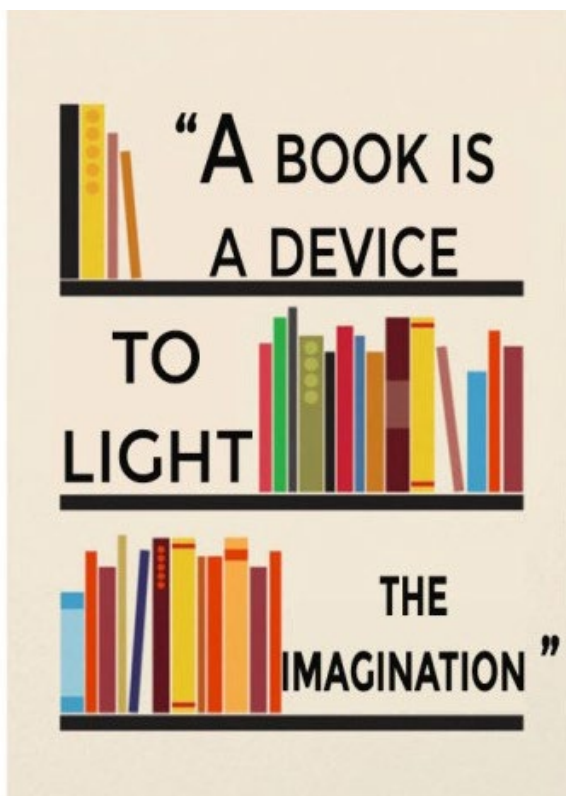
I absolutely loved this book. It was a suspenseful page turner and the twists and turns had me hooked. If you like murder-mystery style books, then this is the one for you! See if you can guess who the killer is before the big reveal at the end.

AR Book Level: 4.8 (Red)



Miss Ackers

Humanities Teacher



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## LEADERBOARD



With Bedrock, pupils have to read quite substantial texts; key vocabulary will be highlighted and its meaning explained. The words are then used in different contexts, so it really develops an understanding of the new vocabulary.

Pupils start with an Alpha test which ascertains the appropriate reading 'block' for that pupil. They then complete a pre- and post-block test to allow both the pupils and the teachers to see how much improvement in their vocabulary they've achieved.

### This week's Bedrock leaders are:

#### Points (overall)

Abigail M	9E3	2839
Chloe B	9E2	2503
Lily McM	9E2	2205

#### Points (this week)

Kira S	8W3	168
Leon A	9E2	166
Abigail M	9E3	135



## LEADERBOARD



## Accelerated Reader™

Accelerated Reader is a computer-based program that schools may use to monitor reading practice and progress. It helps teachers guide pupils to books that are on their individual reading levels. Pupils take short quizzes after reading a book to check if they've understood it. Further information at [www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/pupils/online-learning-platforms](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/pupils/online-learning-platforms)

### Here are this week's leaders:

#### Year 7

Jessica D	7E3	318,660
Harriet H	7W2	125,872
Josh B	7E2	125,872

#### Year 8

Jake L	8W2	319,206
Emily P	8E2	278,875
Alexander P	8W2	275,974

#### Year 9

Emily C	9W2	184,673
Preston McM	9E2	184,486
Thomas P	9E2	155,511

#### Year 10

Daniel R	10W4	546,156
Sarah C	10W1	114,766
Courtney M	10W5	113,655

There's a huge amount quizzing going on in Year 7 which is fantastic to see. Year 8 has seen some high word counts this week too and Daniel in Year 10 has absolutely smashed it! What a brilliant week for AR. Lots of praise going to all the students this week as they deserve it!

Bedrock has seen Kira in Year 8 top the weekly leaderboard with Leon very, very closely behind. Our absolute superstars of Bedrock have made it to the top of the overall leaderboard already. They dominated it last year and are proving themselves again. We can't praise these girls enough - they are at least 1000 points ahead of anyone else. Well done everyone, achievement points heading your way!

Mrs Webster

Acting Assistant Head of English

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## Negatives can become positives!

It would be an understatement to say that 2020 has been incredibly challenging. But even when things are feeling hopeless, we can often find strength and new directions if we think creatively. Perhaps you've spent more time with your family, reconnected with a friend or baked the best banana bread in the Western hemisphere.

"Many young people will have found new career options, new friendships and new hobbies as a result of COVID-19 - if you look for positives, you will find them", says Dr. Green.



**kooth**

## Kooth.com Your online mental wellbeing community



**kooth**

**Kooth.com is a free, anonymous and safe online mental wellbeing community for young people within the local area.**

They provide a range of services to support young people's wellbeing. Their trained and qualified counsellors are available until 10pm each night, 365 days per year. They also host pre-moderated, age appropriate peer to peer discussion boards, live forums and articles all of which hold young person friendly information as well as therapeutic content.

Any young person can access this emotional wellbeing support so if you feel the need to reach out during evenings, weekends and school holidays, you can rest assured the support is easily accessible.

**kooth**

## World Mental Health Day

10th of October



Explore **kooth.com** for free, safe and anonymous support

*Learn to succeed*

# The Online Payments System at Priory

We no longer accept cash or cheques as payment for school items. Therefore we are strongly encouraging all parents to use the online payments system, SCOPay.

Did you know you can pay online for -

- Dinner money
- Trips and events
- Books and equipment
- Ties
- Lockers

Using SCOPAY allows you to top up your child's account or pay for items anywhere, anytime using a credit or debit card. It also reduces the risk of pupils losing cash.

The SCOPAY website is easy to use and there is also an option to download a mobile app.

**All parents can have access to SCOPAY. As we no longer accept cash or cheques, we therefore strongly encourage all parents to use the online payments system.**

To login to your account go to >

[www.scopay.com/priory](http://www.scopay.com/priory)

or to find out more go to >

[www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/internet-payments](http://www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/internet-payments)

For enquiries, please contact: Mrs J Cookson, Finance Officer, by email at [j.cookson@priory.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:j.cookson@priory.lancs.sch.uk)

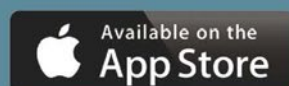
## SCOPAY, A MORE CONVENIENT WAY TO PAY

SCOPAY allows parents, guardians, or carers to make payments by credit or debit card for all school purchases (including school meals, trips, and school clubs)

If you have not yet registered let the office know and an access code will be issued to you.

Then visit SCOPAY.com or download the SCOPAY app and pay anytime, anywhere.

Pay for their lunch, on your lunch!



# SCOPAY

Learn to succeed



The colleges have been late to notify schools of their open events lately however these have been forwarded to Year 11 pupils, via email, as soon as we have received them. This one for Myerscough College only came in this week. If you want to visit, please register as soon as you can at [www.myerscough.ac.uk](http://www.myerscough.ac.uk)



# Myerscough College

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE

## Course Advice Morning Saturday 2 October 10.00am - 12.30pm

Come along and meet the staff, tour the campus and find out more about the College at our Preston, Croxteth, Blackburn and Warrington campuses!

**The North-West centre for land-based, sport, engineering and science education**

Register your place now at [www.myerscough.ac.uk](http://www.myerscough.ac.uk)



# COME & SEE US

## OPEN EVENTS

**Wednesday 6th October, 4-7pm**  
**Saturday 6th November, 10am-2pm**  
**Wednesday 9th March, 4-7pm**

### FURTHER EDUCATION COLLEGE OF THE YEAR



**2020 WINNER**



**PRESTON COLLEGE**

**100% PASS RATE ON LEVEL 3 TECHNICAL COURSES**

*Learn to succeed*